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R. H. Hales

Express Mail Label No.: EL 506 834 151 US

Attorney's Docket No. S1022/8385

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Antonino TORRES and Sergio Tommaso SPAMPINATO  
Serial No.: Unassigned  
Filing Date: Herewith  
For: INTEGRATED CIRCUIT INCLUDING A VERTICAL POWER COMPONENT, A CONTROL CIRCUITRY THEREOF, AND A PROTECTION STRUCTURE AGAINST POLARITY INVERSION OF THE SUBSTRATE POTENTIAL

Examiner: Unassigned  
Art Unit: Unassigned

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF  
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed within three months of the filing date of a National Application. No fee or certification is required.

PART II - Information Cited

The Applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

The Applicant hereby makes the following additional information of record in the above-identified application:

The examiner's attention is hereby drawn to the attached European Search Report.



REMARKS

A copy of each of the above-identified information is enclosed unless otherwise indicated on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant(s) makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant(s) makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant(s) makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant(s), the Examiner is urged to form his or her own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

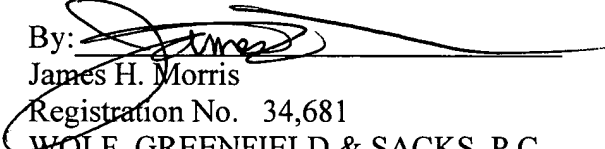
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An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Antonino TORRES and Sergio Tommaso  
SPAMPINATO

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Attorneys for the Applicants

Attorney's Docket No. S1022/8385  
Dated: February 4, 2000